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ABSTRACT

This book explores what it means to be a new American through the history of a refugee from Laos, Shou Cha, a community liaison for an elementary school. The experiences of Shou Cha, evangelical preacher, community leader, and father, show the historical and sociological contexts that have shaped his life. These contexts include the history of immigrant education policies. The chapters are: (1) "On Being and Becoming American"; (2) "Visions of America: Narratives of Immigrants, School, and Society"; (3) "A River in the Mountains"; (4) "The Word"; (5) "Generations"; (6) "Making Peace"; (7) "Resourcefulness, Relationship, Respect: Learning from a Life"; (8) "From One Life to Many: Rediscovering America through Autobiography"; and (9) "Epilogue: Research as an Opening." An appendix contains a discussion of "Narrative Inquiry and the Life History of a New American." (Contains 232 references.) (SLD)

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